Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

June 28, 2017
AGENDA

Special Meeting of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
8:30 a.m. - Wednesday - June 28, 2017
Board of Trustees Room
315 Altgeld Hall

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Appropriate Notification of Public Meeting
3. Meeting Agenda Approval ................................................................. Action ....... i
4. Chair's Comments/Announcements
5. Public Comment
6. Closed Session
7. Chair's Report 80
   a. Appointment of Acting President of Northern Illinois University ............... Action ....... 1
   b. Appointment of Acting Executive Vice President and Provost .............. Action ....... 2
   c. Appointment of Interim Dean, College of Law .................................. Action ....... 3
   d. Yordon Center Lease Amendment ................................................... Action ....... 4
8. Other Matters
9. Next Meeting Date
10. Adjournment

*Individuals wishing to make an appearance before the Board should consult the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University, Article II, Section 4 - Appearances before the Board. Appearance request forms will be available in the Board Room the day of the meeting. For more information contact Kathleen Carey, (kjahns@niu.edu) Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Altgeld Hall 300, DeKalb, IL 60115, 815-756-1273.

Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in the NIU Board of Trustees meetings should contact Ellen Andersen, Director of Special Events, at (815)753-1999, as soon as possible.
APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Summary: The Board of Trustees and Dr. Freeman mutually desire to enter into an Employment Agreement for an Acting President ("Agreement"). The following is the nature of the Agreement being considered by the Board of Trustees and other information about the Agreement that is intended to inform the public of the business being conducted by the Board:

A. Dr. Freeman will perform the duties and responsibilities of the Acting President until a new president is appointed after an appropriate search.

B. A base salary of approximately $360,000 for the Acting President position.

C. Deferred compensation in the form of $25,000 for each year that is completed as Acting President, and for one additional year after a return by Dr. Freeman to the Executive Vice President and Provost position. If there is no return to the Executive Vice President and Provost position, this additional one year of deferred compensation will be forfeited.

D. Dr. Freeman’s base salary for the Executive Vice President and Provost position will be adjusted to $300,000 annually, when she returns to the position.

E. The Board provides authorization after a national search is completed for the next President to provide performance-based incentive compensation to Dr. Freeman as the Executive Vice President and Provost in the range of $20,000 to $25,000 for successful completion of goals and objectives mutually set by the new president and Dr. Freeman.

F. In the event that Dr. Freeman does not return to the Executive Vice President and Provost position upon completing service as the Acting President, she will be provided a twelve month Professional Leave to prepare to return to her academic appointment in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Department of Biology. The compensation for the Professional Leave to be between the current base salary of $280,000 and the adjusted base salary of $300,000, depending upon the circumstances of the termination of her service as Acting President (e.g. resignation vs. without cause termination by University or expiration of the term of service).

G. Reimbursement for reasonable University-related business and travel expenses for Dr. Freeman for performance of duties and responsibilities of the Acting President, in accordance with applicable State and University policy. Expenses for the spouse of the Acting President are reimbursable if they are related to the business needs of the university.

For Approval: The Board hereby agrees to the terms and conditions outlined above and authorizes those terms and conditions to be reduced to a mutually-agreed, written Employment Agreement for an Acting President between the Board and Dr. Freeman.
AGENDA ITEM 7.b.
June 28, 2017

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

Summary: Dr. Christopher McCord is being recommended for appointment as Acting Executive Vice President and Provost effective July 1, 2017. This appointment is required because NIU’s Executive Vice President and Provost will be serving as the Acting President until a Presidential search is conducted and a permanent President is named.

Section 19.5 of NIU’s Bylaws describes the procedures to be used for “Acting and Other Temporary Administrative Appointments.” Specifically, the by-laws state that: If it is necessary to fill an administrative office, either because the incumbent is on leave of absence or because the office must be filled on a temporary basis while the search procedures specified in section 19.3 of these bylaws or in other university regulations are being completed, the administrative officer to whom the person to be appointed will report may appoint a temporary, acting replacement. This appointment shall be made only after consultation with the principal faculty committee and other committees routinely involved in advising the administrative office being filled.

Accordingly, after consultation with the leadership of the faculty senate and staff councils, an anonymous, confidential survey was utilized to elicit feedback from the members of the Council of Deans, the University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees, the leadership of Human Resource Services, and Student Affairs (SA) representatives. This feedback was considered along with Dr. McCord’s significant academic leadership experience including, a working knowledge of diverse academic disciplines; direct engagement in international initiatives focused on teaching and learning, research and artistry, outreach and engagement; in-depth knowledge of NIU’s institutional culture, policies and procedures- including shared governance; experience managing departmental and college level budgets and personnel actions; established reputation for fairness and transparency; track record of using data to inform decisions; and ability to communicate effectively with multiple internal and external stakeholder groups.

Dr. McCord, has served as the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences since 2007. He has played a significant leadership role in the Program Prioritization process both as a member of the Administrative Task Force, and a facilitator for Program Prioritization implementation.

McCord holds bachelor's degrees in mathematics and physics from Bowling Green State University and a Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is currently the senior dean at NIU, and a Board member and President-elect of the Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences.

Recommendation: The university requests Board of Trustees approval of its appointment of Dr. Christopher McCord as Acting Executive Vice President and Provost effective July 1, 2017.
APPONMENT OF INTERIM DEAN COLLEGE OF LAW

Professor Mark Cordes has served the College of Law for 34 years as a faculty member, as well as in multiple administrative roles. He served as associate dean for the college from 1996-98, and in 1999 he earned the College of Law Alumni Council’s Outstanding Professor Award for support of alumni activities. In 2001, he was selected the college's professor of the year. He was appointed previously as interim dean in 2015-16.

Professor Cordes teaches courses in property, land use controls, constitutional law, First Amendment and environmental law—is the author of more than two dozen book chapters and law review articles in these areas. He was a significant contributor to the revision of Thompson on Real Property, a leading multi-volume treatise on Property Law. In addition to his law review articles, Cordes also contributed five entries to the recent Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties. Professor Cordes has been a faculty associate with NIU's Institute for the Environment, Sustainability, and Energy, where on occasion he has co-taught an undergraduate course on environmental law, policy and economics. Mostly recently, he led the College during Program Prioritization, and during the Spring 2017 site visit by an American Bar Association Accreditation Team.

Professor Cordes earned his juris doctor degree at Willamette University, where he was editor-in-chief of the Willamette Law Review. He served as a law clerk to Justice Thomas Tongue of the Oregon Supreme Court after graduation from law school. He earned his bachelor’s degree in history and psychology from Portland State University before earning a master’s degree at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Recommendation: The University requests Board of Trustees approval of the appointment of Professor Mark Cordes as the Interim Dean of the College of Law effective June 28, 2017.
YORDON CENTER LEASE AMENDMENT

**Background:** In 2006, the University entered into a ground lease and operational agreement for the current Yordon Center with the NIU Foundation. Later in 2013, the University also entered into a ground lease and operational lease with the NIU Foundation for the current Chessick Center. After review and consideration of both operational and risk management implications, it has been determined that the best interests of the University and NIU Foundation would be served by having the leases run concurrently due to the interrelated nature of both properties. The University is recommending that the Yordon Center lease be amended at no additional costs to coincide with the term of the Chessick Center ground lease and operational agreement.

**Recommendation:** The University requests Board of Trustees approval to amend the Yordon Center Lease to be extended at no additional cost in order to be co-terminus with the Chessick Center Ground Lease and Operational Agreements.